

DATE: May, 2009

TO: Authorized Representative/Food Service Director

FROM: Dean Flaws, Food Distribution Consultant

SUBJECT: OA (August) Release & End of Year (08-09) Report

PLEASE ROUTE TO FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

1. **OA Order Form.** Enclosed in this mailing you will find the first Commodity Order form for the next school year. The first shipment of commodities 2009-2010 school year is being planned to start the week of August 24th. The delivery cycle takes approx. 5 weeks.
2. **Internet Ordering** is available for OA. Go to the Internet address: www.edinfo.state.ia.us, and enter your ID and password on the screen. Then click the submit button. **CLICK** Commodities on the Application menu screen. Now you have two options: General Information or Commodity Order Form. Select Commodity Order Form and click the GO button. Instruction booklets and videos are available by calling this office.
3. **Anticipated Dates when Commodity order form will be up and on the web:**

	(Delivery Cycle)	(On Web)	(Approx. Beginning Delivery Date)
O	A Aug/Sept. Delivery	May 15	Aug. 24, 2009
O	B October Delivery	Sept. 4	Oct. 5, 2009
O	C Nov./Dec. Delivery	Oct. 9	Nov. 16, 2009
O	D January Delivery	Dec. 4	Jan 4, 2010
O	E Feb./ Mar. Delivery	Jan 15	Feb 15, 2010
O	F April Delivery	March 5	March 29, 2010
4. **The printout of commodities received in 2008-2009 has been included in this mailing.** The school auditor may want the total value of commodities received during the 2008-2009 school year. Note the last line, district totals, column, and commodity value.

You should carefully compare this printout with your warehouse releases. There have been some deletions/ additions to various orders and it may be necessary in your district to adjust the final total. It is not necessary to send the state a copy of your adjustments. If you need to adjust the totals, do so before you submit it to your administrative office.
5. **The “Single Inventory Method” guidance** booklet, which includes basic guidelines and some questions and answers, may be obtained by calling this office. This is the same information booklet we have issued the past four to five years. This would be information for new Food Service managers.

6. **Iowa Food and Distribution Program.** If you need additional information, commodity values, or forms for the Commodity Food Distribution programs, please visit our web site at: <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/>
7. **All commodity values** for this school year (2008-09) will be found on the Bureau web page. We will put in new 2009-2010 values as soon as we get them updated.
8. **Processed Commodity Food Items for 2009-2010.** All food items coded 2500 or above are processed food items and are an extra cost to your school district. You will be allocated one (1) of each item for all processed foods coded 2500 or above. If you ***do not*** want this product, you must put a “0” in the amount wanted column. You ***do not*** have to take these processed food items. Please note that there is a difference between the commodity value and the price of each item. The commodity value is the amount in each unit of product that is deducted from your school entitlement, unless it is a bonus commodity. The price of each item is the cost of the finished processed product. The school cost does not include the per case shipping and handling fee charged by Keck, Inc. for each case of product shipped. These are all optional products. The costs will be included in the amount you pay Keck, Inc. There will be ***no*** separate billings for processed products. Current (09-10) Commodity Fact Booklets will be available at the state SNAI Conference in Des Moines on June 23-24.
9. **Debarment/Suspension.** Debarment is an action taken by a Federal agency to exclude a person or other entity from participating in any transaction involving Federal funds or other assistance. Suspension is an action taken to immediately exclude a person/entity from such transactions for a temporary period pending the completion of a debarment or other legal action.

Persons or entities that are debarred or suspended by a Federal agency are, with a few exceptions, to be excluded from financial and non-financial assistance and benefits under other Federal non-procurement programs and activities. A contractor or other entity must certify that it has not been debarred or suspended by a Federal agency before it can enter into a covered contract or agreement. In accordance with 7 CFR Part 3017, covered transactions include procurement contracts for goods or services valued at or in excess of \$100,000, and procurement contracts for federally required audit services, regardless of amount.

The required certification form, USDA Form AD-1048, *Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tiered Transactions* may be obtained by contacting Dean Flaws at the Iowa Department of Education at (515) 281-4032. This form should be completed by the entity with which you contract, with one copy forwarded to the Iowa Department of Education and one copy maintained at your agency.

10. **Find out what’s new in the USDA’s Food Distribution Program for schools at the following website:**
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/news>
11. **New Processed Products for the 2009-10 school year.**
Several new items will be added to next year’s commodity order form list. They include:
 - 1) Pre-cooked beef patties - Advance
 - 2) Chicken, Mandarin Orange
 - 3) Better For You Pizzas, pizza dippers & breaded cheese sticks
 - 4) Dried Cherries, case, 4/4 lbs
 - 5) Oats 25, 25 lb bags
 - 6) Raisins 30, 30 lb. case
 - 7) Brown Rice, case 24 lb.
 - 8) Whole Grain Macaroni, case 20 lbs.
 - 9) Whole Grain Rotini, case 20 lbs
 - 10) Whole Grain Spaghetti case, 20 lbs

12. **Non-Delivery Dates** form is enclosed in this mailing. **Please return this form to Keck, Inc. They need to know when your school is not in session.** If your school starts later than Aug. 24 and you don't want deliveries that early be sure to put this information down on the form.
13. **School Freezers:** Have you worked out plans to have someone check your freezers on a daily basis during the summer months? Don't take a chance to have a break-down and lose any products. Make someone responsible for checking all of your storage areas when school is not in session.
14. **If you have an email address, let us know and we will put you** on our group "Commodity Club" email list.
15. **The commodity assistance rate has not yet been determined.** This information will be published in the federal register after July 1, 2009. We anticipate the rate to be approximately \$.20750 for FY 2010. We'll set your 1st rates at \$.2075 per meal.
16. **Your current entitlement dollars are figured using Oct. 08 thru March 09** claiming for reimbursement data. The ADP (average daily participation) is the number of students who participated in the school lunch program.
17. **The Iowa Commodity Food Distribution Program** is planning on combining its regular "Commodity Day" with School Nutrition Assoc. Iowa (SNAI) State Conference in Coralville, Iowa on June 24, 2009. The purpose of this event is to identify new & current processed commodity items that will be available to Iowa schools for the 2009-10 school year. These products have been selected and approved by the Iowa Commodity Advisory Council. Each processor booth will be identified with a commodity sticker/sign, letting you know this is an approved 2009-10 product. CN labels and fact sheets on each product should also be available. Since this is a state conference there is a \$45.00 fee for members and \$75.00 for non-members to attend the Exhibits Only on Wednesday, June 24th. You may obtain a registration form from:

Norma LaMantia
SNAI
3232 Fernwood Ct.
Davenport, Ia. 52807
[snaaiowa@msn.com](mailto:snaiowa@msn.com)
(563) 823-0162

18. If you are a 2009 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and receiving commodities, this is just a reminder that these commodities are being shipped with your April/May commodity deliveries from Keck.
19. **Council Members Complete Terms**
The Bureau of Nutrition, Health, & School Transportation wishes to thank the following individuals as they have completed a three-year term on the Commodity Advisory Council this school year.

Ann Lehman, Mt. Pleasant CSD
Sherry Kaiser, Western Dubuque CSD
LaRae Doll, Johnston CSD
Rich Luze, Sioux City CSD
Andrea Mahler North Scott CSD

The 2008-2009 council was instrumental in helping with the selection of new processed commodity food items that are lower in sugars, fats, and salt and the addition of several whole grain foods. This year's council was co-chaired by Sherry Kaiser and Allison Ketter. The council was also responsible for putting together a "Commodity Awareness Day" at last summer's State Nutrition Association annual conference in Des Moines. Thank you for devoting your time for Iowa's food Distribution Program. If anyone is interested in serving on this council, please contact Jane Heikenen @ (515)-281-4753.

20. Reminders/Checklist:

- A. Rotate Stock
- B. Check freezer and refrigeration each day this summer.
- C. Fill-out paperwork on "Delivery Dates Not Available" and send them to Keck.
- D. Forward your end of the year report on "Commodities received in 2008-2009 to your business manager or person who does your school's financial reports.
- E. Get your OA (Aug./Sept.) **Commodity orders back to us before your school is out for the summer break.**

21. Balancing Entitlement and Health

USDA eliminated shortening from their offerings last year. Whole grain pasta, oatmeal, and brown rice will now be available in Iowa. Low sodium canned vegetables will be offered beginning with the 2010 school Year. In order for entitlement funds to be available for new healthy commodities, other items had to be deleted from the current list of foods available. All of the salad dressings that were previously available as processed commodities will no longer be offered through the commodity program. This decision was easy to make as our state works toward offering products that will help schools meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans as part of their School Meals Initiative goals.

Sincerely,

Dean Flaws, Commodities Consultant (515)-281-4032
Jane Heikenen, Commodities Consultant (515)-281-4753
Bureau of Nutrition, Health, & Transportation

Enclosures